

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A screw anchor comprising:
a deformable central portion in which main longitudinal slots are formed, the main longitudinal slots extending essentially parallel to a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and defining deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongues which lie on opposite sides of the plane and which have a substantially serrated profile; [[and]]
secondary longitudinal slots formed in said central portion, the secondary slots having a length which is different from the length of the main longitudinal slots, and wherein [[each]] said secondary longitudinal slot defines slots, on said central portion and define, with an adjacent main longitudinal slot, ~~and/or an adjacent secondary longitudinal slot, respective~~ deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues, the main longitudinal slots and the secondary longitudinal slots being non-equidistantly arranged about the periphery of the screw anchor.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 2, wherein each deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue has a substantially serrated profile.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main longitudinal slots are spaced apart on said central portion (2).
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main longitudinal slots comprise four slots which are arranged in two pairs, and wherein each pair of main longitudinal slots are parallel to each other and wherein the pairs of main longitudinal slots are arranged in a mirror image relationship with each other.
9. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 8, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot is located between each pair of main longitudinal slots.
10. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a collar at a first end of said central portion; said collar having an annular flange coaxial with said longitudinal axis.
11. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a number of equally spaced projecting appendixes integral with said collar and extending parallel to said longitudinal axis.
12. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a head at a second end of said central portion.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently amended) A screw anchor comprising:
deformable, main longitudinal anchoring tongues which are arranged diametrically opposite one another with respect to a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor; [[and]]
secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues arranged in pairs and wherein each secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue is shorter than each main longitudinal anchoring tongue, the main longitudinal anchoring tongues having widths which are wider than widths of the secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues; and
an angularly-shaped longitudinal rib on each of the main longitudinal anchoring tongues and on each of the secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues.

15. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in claim 14, wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues are separated by main longitudinal slots which extend essentially parallel to a plane on which the longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues lie on opposite sides of the plane.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A screw anchor comprising:

main longitudinal slots defining serrated main longitudinal tongues wherein each tongue is located on an opposites side of a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies; and

secondary longitudinal slots defining pairs of secondary anchoring tongues wherein the pairs are configured so that the one pair of secondary anchoring tongues ~~of each pair are each~~ is located on one side opposite sides of the plane, and a second pair of secondary anchoring ~~tongues is located on a second side of the plane,~~ the main longitudinal slots and the secondary slots being non-uniformly spaced about a periphery of the screw anchor.

18. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot has a length which is shorter than a length of the main longitudinal slots.

19. (New) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising: an angularly-shaped longitudinal rib on each of the main longitudinal anchoring tongues and on each of the secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues.